

WHY THE MONARCHS MATTERS

Pollinators, like Monarchs, are essential for our food security. Only 5-10% of monarchs make it from egg to butterfly in the wild. On the bright side females lay 300-500 eggs in the 2-6 weeks they live, but what is working against the monarchs?

- Loss of Habitat
- Climate Change
- Pesticides and Fertilizers



HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Plant Milkweed
- Always have food for butterflies
 - at least 3 blooming plants in all 3 of the sub-seasons
- Keep pesticides out of you garden
- Spread the word about the monarchs and take steps to become an informed citizen

MILKWEED: A NECESSITY

Monarchs **only lay eggs on milkweed**. Monarch caterpillars **can only eat milkweed**. It is estimated that we need an additional 3.6 Billion stems of milkweed.

WITHOUT MILKWEED THERE WILL BE NO MONARCHS:

- There are two types of milkweeds, Common Milkweed (*Asclepias Syriaca*) and Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias Incarnata*).
- Many Monarchs show a preference towards Swamp Milkweed for egg laying, which Aphids love.
- Common Milkweed is better for second season and has big fleshy leaves perfect for growing caterpillars.



YOUR CHOICES MATTER. LET'S PROTECT WHAT WE LOVE.